

IN THE CLAIMS:

Claims 1-4 (canceled).

5. (previously presented) The vessel filter of claim 23, wherein the longitudinal struts include roughened surfaces to engage the vessel wall to increase retention.

6. (previously presented) The vessel filter of claim 23, further comprising a plurality of vessel engaging members with pointed ends extending from the longitudinally extending struts to engage the vessel wall to increase retention.

7. (previously presented) The vessel filter of claim 23, wherein the filter is composed of shape memory material.

8. (previously presented) The vessel filter of claim 23, wherein opposing ends of at least one of the longitudinally extending struts are out of phase.

9. (previously presented) The vessel filter of claim 23, wherein the longitudinally extending struts are spaced circumferentially about 60 degrees apart.

10. (canceled)

11. (previously presented) The vessel filter of claim 23, wherein at least one of the struts has varying widths along its length, the strut having an angled portion, a portion of the strut substantially parallel to the longitudinal axis of the filter having a first width and the angled portion of the strut having a second width less than the first width.

12. (canceled)

13. (previously presented) The vessel filter of claim 23, wherein the longitudinally extending struts include a plurality of vessel engaging members extending therefrom to engage the vessel wall to increase retention.

14. (canceled)

15. (previously presented) The vessel filter of claim 23, wherein end portions of at least one of the longitudinally extending struts are twisted out of phase.

Claims 16-22 (canceled).

23. (currently amended) A vessel filter comprising a tubular member having a distal portion and a proximal portion, a longitudinal axis and a plurality of elongated cutouts formed therein extending along the longitudinal axis and forming a series of elongated spaced apart struts separated by the cutouts, the filter movable between a first insertion configuration and a second deployed configuration, each of the spaced apart struts in the deployed configuration forming longitudinally extending struts extending substantially parallel to the longitudinal axis of the filter to form a mounting section and each including a first inwardly ~~bend~~ bent region at a first end bending towards a center of the filter to transition to a first filter section and a second inwardly ~~bend~~ bent region at a second end bending towards a center of the filter to transition to a second filter section, the first filter section terminating in a first tubular portion and the second filter section terminating in a second tubular portion, the first ~~bend~~ bent region positioned distal of the first tubular portion and the second ~~bend~~ bent region positioned proximal of the second tubular portion such that a first imaginary line tangent to the first ~~bend~~ bent region and perpendicular to the longitudinal axis does not intersect the first tubular portion and a second imaginary line tangent to the second ~~bend~~ bent region and perpendicular to the longitudinal axis does not intersect the second tubular portion such that the first imaginary line is distal of the first tubular portion and the second imaginary line is proximal of the second tubular portion.

24. (currently amended) The vessel filter of claim 23, wherein the struts have a length exceeding a diameter of the filter.

25. (previously presented) The vessel filter of claim 23, further comprising curved ribs extending from adjacent struts.

26. (previously presented) The vessel filter of claim 25, wherein the curved ribs terminate in a joined region.

27. (previously presented) The vessel filter of claim 23, wherein the struts at the first filter section originate from a proximal end of the first tubular portion and at the second filter section originate from a distal end of the second tubular portion.